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United States Department of State

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Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

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Washington, D.C. 20520-3430

Dear Mr. O'Dea:

Thank you for your July 28 letter to Secretary Christopher, concerning the crisis in Rwanda and Burundi. He has asked me to respond.

We strongly support the rapid deployment of United Nations peacekeepers in Rwanda and of additional human rights monitors in both Rwanda and Burundi. We are facilitating the long-awaited deployment of the peacekeeping force by transporting personnel and materiel to Rwanda for the United Nations. We are working with the Organization of African Unity to expand the number of monitors it has in Burundi. We will contribute \$300,000 for human rights monitoring in Burundi to the Human Rights Center in Geneva, supplementing \$780,000 pledged by the Europeans. We will also support the expansion of the Center and the United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights' Plan for Human Rights Technical Advisory Services. A Human Rights Center officer is already in Bujumbura consulting with the Government of Burundi.

We are working with the U.N., the Government of Rwanda, and other interested governments to bring those responsible for the genocide in Rwanda to justice while ensuring that refugees are not intimidated or harassed as they return home. We are promoting the establishment of a war crimes tribunals and a force of international human rights monitors.

In Burundi, we continue to urge the authorities to be even-handed in meting out justice. The U.S. Government strongly supports holding those accused of human rights violations accountable.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Moose

Mr. James O'Dea,
Director of the Washington Office,
Amnesty International U.S.A.,
304 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.,

Washington, D.C. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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